



**BOROUGH OF BOSTON**  
**AND**  
**BOSTON**  
**PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and of the

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**

**FOR THE YEAR 1953**



# MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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COUNCILLOR J. HENRY MOUNTAIN, *Chairman.*

ALDERMAN A. BRADLEY, *Vice-Chairman.*

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR E. H. PORCHER, J.P.

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„ Dr. G. R. D. USMAR.

„ Mrs. E. M. VALENTINE.

„ E. B. WILLIS.

# STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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**Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer of Health :**

W. G. SMEATON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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**Senior Sanitary Inspector and Port Sanitary Officer :**

G. E. CHAMBERLAIN, M.S.I.A.

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**Additional Sanitary Inspector and Port Sanitary Officer :**

S. DAVEY, M.S.I.A.

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**Pupil Sanitary Inspector :**

G. FOX

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**Chief Clerk :**

D. DADY

# BOROUGH OF BOSTON AND PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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To :—The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Boston.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough and on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1953.

From the statistics given on the following pages it will be seen that health conditions continue to be very satisfactory. There has been a slight increase in the population and both the Birth and Death Rates continue to be maintained at satisfactory levels. In this respect it is encouraging to note an excess of 154 births over the number of deaths. It is also pleasing to report that no deaths occurred from maternal causes.

The incidence of infectious diseases remained within satisfactory limits with the exception of an epidemic of Measles which resulted in 1,216 cases being notified. A mild outbreak of Dysentery also occurred, but this appeared to be localised in one area of the town and no definite cause could be assigned to the outbreak.

In March, owing to the increase of ditch pollution nuisances on the West side of the town, it was necessary for your Medical Officer of Health and Senior Sanitary Inspector to report on the situation with a view to obtaining some alleviation of a temporary nature pending the completion of the sewerage scheme. The scheme has now received the approbation of the Minister but in the meantime the situation will still have to be watched carefully during the interim period pending its complete execution.

Housing continues to be a problem although it is still being tackled vigorously. The Housing Repairs and Rents Act may do much to further alleviate the housing shortage but it is a very complicated statute and may produce considerable administrative difficulties. It will certainly throw a considerable pressure of work on this Department in the future.

Further additional duties have been placed on the Public Health Department by the de-control of the Meat Industry. It is pointed out that the present pattern is an interim one, and the Government's policy of eventual moderate concentration of slaughtering remains unchanged. In this connection it is submitted that the present slaughtering measures should not render nugatory the Council's original policy of a centralised slaughterhouse.

In accordance with the Clean Food Campaign efforts are still being made to maintain a high standard of clean food. In its passage through Parliament the Food and Drugs Bill has been shorn of much of its former power and when it becomes law it is feared it will not be a means of setting such a high standard as was contemplated in its inception. In this respect, therefore, it is even more important that the voluntary co-operation of food handlers be maintained and that continued efforts be made to educate the public as to the importance of clean food from a public health aspect.

In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation and courtesy shown to me by the Mayor and Members of the Council, and to acknowledge the assistance given to me by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, and all other officials of the Council.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. SMEATON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.

September, 1954.

# Part I

## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

#### GENERAL STATISTICS:—

Area (in acres) ... ..	3,259
Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1953) ... ..	24,330
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1953 (according to the Rate Books) ... ..	7,497
Rateable Value ... ..	£141,473
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£559
Estimated average number of Persons per Inhabited House ... ..	3.2
Estimated average number of Persons per Acre ... ..	7.5
Average number of Inhabited Houses per Acre ... ..	2.3

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC.:—

The social conditions of the area have remained unchanged during the year.

#### VITAL STATISTICS:—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude) ... ..	17.0
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted) ... ..	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	21.3
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude) ... ..	10.7
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted) ... ..	9.9
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... ..	Nil
Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age:—	
(a) All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	33.8
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	30.8
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	83.3



### Death Rates of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

(a) All infants, per 1,000 live births ... ..	19.3
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	17.9
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	41.7

## OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

### POPULATION:—

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1953 was 24,330, an increase of 70 on the figure given for the previous year which was 24,260. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 154.

### BIRTHS:—

A total of 414 live births (202 males, 212 females) were registered during 1953. This figure gives a crude birth rate of 17.0 and an adjusted rate of 16.7 per 1,000 of the population, an increase on the rates for 1952 which were 16.4 and 16.0 respectively. The rate for the whole of England and Wales for 1953 was 15.5.

The number of illegitimate live births was 24 (9 males, 15 females) which is 5.8% of the total live births. The total illegitimate live births in 1952 was 19.

### STILLBIRTHS:—

There were 9 stillbirths registered (4 males, 5 females), giving a stillbirth rate of 21.3 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths, as compared with 12.4 in 1952. The rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 22.4.



Taken as a rate per 1,000 of the estimated population, a figure of 0.37 per 1,000 is arrived at, which is approximately the same as the figure given by the Registrar-General for the whole of England and Wales, namely 0.35.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY:—

There were no deaths under this heading in 1953.

#### INFANT MORTALITY:—

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year of age (11 males, 3 females), the resulting death rate per 1,000 live births being 33.8 as compared with 25.2 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1953 was 26.8.

The total number of infant deaths under 4 weeks of age was 8 (6 males, 2 females), giving a death rate of 19.3 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 15.1 in 1952.

#### DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES:—

The actual number of deaths allocated to the Borough after deduction of those occurring in non-residents and addition of deaths of residents which occurred outside the Borough was 260. The resulting crude death rate of 10.7 per 1,000 of the population and adjusted rate of 9.9 once again show a decrease on the rates for the previous year which were 11.0 and 10.2 respectively.

The figure for the whole of England and Wales for 1953 was 11.4.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOSTON M.B., 1953

No.	Cause of Death	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8.	Measles ... ..	1	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	3	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	2	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	13

No.	Cause of Death						Males	Females
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	13	22
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	22	14
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	15	20
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	11	5
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	12	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	9	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	14	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
ALL CAUSES							141	119

## METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

I am indebted to N. H. Middlebrook, Esq., Meteorologist, for the following summary of the weather conditions of the area for the past two years as recorded by him at the Meteorological Station, Freiston Road, Boston.

	1953	1952
Rain days	153	181
Mean humidity at 0900 hrs. G.M.T.	87%	85%
Mean day and night temperatures	49.8°	48.8°
Mean maximum temperature	56.9°	56.0°
Mean minimum temperature	42.8°	41.6°
No. of days with maximum temperatures 70° or over	42	53
No. of days with maximum temperatures 80° or over	6	8
Thunderstorms	20	17
Ground frosts	88	106

Fog at 9.00 a.m. observation	...	...	...	...	26	18
Snow, including sleet, days of	...	...	...	...	15	33
Gales, days of	...	...	...	...	7	7

The total rainfall for the year was 22.35" against an average of 24.18".

NOTE:—As rainfall has generally increased since the old average of 22.81" was computed, a new set of official averages will soon come into operation. For the purpose of this summary Mr. Middlebrook has used his own averages as it is understood they will approximate very closely.

## SECTION B

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES:—

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Lincoln. Samples of milk, ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for examination and further details of this work will be found in Sections E and F.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, and Mr. W. W. Taylor, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Nottingham, have continued to carry out chemical and bacteriological examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE:—

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the County Transport Department, Allan House, Carlton Road.

Four first line ambulances, including one of the most modern type, and five sitting case cars are based in the Borough. In addition an ambulance is reserved solely for the conveyance of infectious cases.

#### NURSING IN THE HOME:—

This service is provided by the Local Health Authority in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

## PUBLIC MORTUARY:—

The Public Mortuary is managed by the Borough Engineer's Department. I am satisfied that the Mortuary is properly conducted and the facilities adequate.

## HOSPITALS:—

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows:—

Boston General Hospital — Acute General.

London Road Hospital — Orthopædic and Acute General.

Boston Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium — Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital — Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton — Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Children's Hospital — Sick Children.

Bargate Physiotherapy Centre, Boston — Physiotherapy.

## THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES:—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS:—

The Chest Clinic, Venereal Diseases Clinic and Orthopædic Clinic are held at the London Road Hospital.

Clinics operated in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Services for Ophthalmic, Dental and minor defects are held at the Health Centre, London Road.

The Cleansing Station continues to function at the Health Centre, and further details with regard to the arrangements for the treatment of Scabies will be found in Section F of this Report.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47. — REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION:—

There were five cases in which action was considered necessary during the year.

#### Case No. 1.

On the 13th January an aged man living alone in insanitary circumstances and who was unfit to look after himself was removed to Part III accommodation for a period of three months. On the 20th January it was found necessary to transfer him to a hospital for chronic sick cases where he died shortly after admission.

#### Case No. 2.

On the 17th February an order was made under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, for the immediate removal of a male living alone in insanitary conditions and who was unfit to look after himself. He was removed to Part III accommodation for a period of three weeks, the order being renewed on the 10th March for a further three months. In June the order was allowed to lapse as the patient decided to remain voluntarily.

#### Case No. 3.

On the 13th March an aged female living alone in insanitary circumstances and who was unfit to look after herself was removed to Part III accommodation for a period of three weeks in accordance with the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951. Subsequently the order was renewed for two further periods of three months but in September she gave her consent to stay in the Home.

#### Case No. 4.

On the 29th September an aged male living alone in insanitary conditions and who was unable to look after himself was removed to Part III accommodation for a period of three months. During the period of the order it was found necessary to transfer him to hospital accommodation for chronic sick cases. At the end of the year he was still a patient, the order having been renewed for two further periods of three months.

#### Case No. 5.

On the 15th December an order was made under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, for the removal of an aged man who was living with his wife. He suffered from chronic ill-health, was living in insanitary circumstances and was unable to care for himself and was receiving insufficient care and attention from other persons. He was removed for a period of six weeks to a hospital for chronic sick cases.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES:—

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, these services are provided by the Holland County Council.



## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

#### WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. D. H. Ball, Water Engineer, for the following report on the Borough Water Supply:—

##### 1. STATISTICS.

(A) **Rainfall.** The rainfall recorded at Revesby Waterworks during the year was 24.20" as against 22.27" in 1952, but deducting evaporation the "run-off" was 8.87" in 1953. Average figures for Rainfall and Evaporation at Revesby are 24.94" and 14.10" respectively. Rainfall at Fordington was 22.67" as against 23.28" in 1952.

(B) **Volume of water supplied from Revesby and Fordington and received in bulk from Boston R.D.C. with comparisons for 1952.**

Thousands of gallons.					
Year.	Revesby.	Fordington.	from Boston R.D.C.	Total.	average G.P.D.
1953	243,846	205,569	6,805	456,220	1,250
1952	202,124	253,832	9,483	465,439	1,272
Increase +					
Decrease —	+41,722	—48,263	—2,678	—9,219	—22

As a matter of interest, the average daily consumption in 1939 was 674,000 gallons.

A waste detection scheme is in operation for the whole Statutory Area of Supply.

##### (C) **Pressures.**

Pressures in the town mains have definitely improved, arising from the booster plant installation at Horncastle Road and general improvements in the distribution system, but despite this it must be admitted that pressures, especially during peak periods, are sub-standard. Consumers generally are always encouraged to install the maximum amount of storage possible. The availability of additional water in bulk from the mains of the Boston R.D.C. for the summer of 1954 will ease the strain on the Corporation's sources at Revesby and Fordington.

## (D) Extensions of Mains.

As will be seen from the list of main extensions and renewals, considerable activity continues in the Water Department. A large number of new services have been connected, and a considerable amount of internal work undertaken by local plumbers, all to the benefit of public health. Modernisation of the distribution system continues and special attention is always directed to housing needs in the Borough and Rural Districts, and rural water main extensions to meet agricultural requirements within the Council's Statutory Area of Supply.

### WATER MAINS LAID IN BOROUGH DURING 1953

Location.	Dia. & type of pipe.		Length. yds.	Remarks.
<b>1. Corporation Housing Estates.</b>				
(a) Carlton Road	4" A.C.		75	
	6" A.C.		217	Across allotments to Fenside Road.
(b) Elizabeth Road	4" A.C.		210	Completion of
	3" A.C.		33	estate mains and
	3" C.I.		87	Freiston Road -
	1½" A.C.		150	Tower Road link.
(c) Woad Farm Estate				
(off St. Nicholas Road)	6" A.C.		260	Part ring main.
(off Church Road)	6" A.C.		408	do.
	4" C.I.		31	Part site develop-
	3" A.C.		135	ment.
<b>2. Private Building Estates.</b>				
(a) Fydell Rowley				
York Street/Rowley Road	3" A.C.		50	Site link mains.
Pilgrim Road	3" A.C.		57	do.
(b) King's Crescent	4" A.C.		71	Part site develop-
				ment.
(c) Bayswood Avenue	4" A.C.		135	do.
<b>3. Robin Hood's Walk</b>	3" A.C.		182	
<b>4. Church Road</b>	4" C.I.		34	Windsor Crescent
	4" A.C.		35	link mains.
	6" C.I.		60	Part ring main to
				Kingsway.
	4" C.I.		44	Link with 6" ring
				main to Kingsway.
<b>5. Main Ridge &amp; Vauxhall Rd.</b> (York St.-Wellington Corner)	6" C.I.		268	Distribution Im-
				provement.
<b>6. Spayne Road &amp; Spain Place</b>	4" C.I.		38	do.
	4" C.I.		50	do.
	3" C.I.		13	do.
<b>7. Fydell Crescent</b>	4" C.I.		80	Link with George
				Street main.
			<u>2,723</u>	



## Renewals

1. Pipemaker's Lane	3"	A.C.	27	Replaces old 1½" main.
2. Shodfriar's Lane	3"	C.I.	78	Replaces old 2" main.
3. Spayne Road	3"	C.I.	42	Replaces old 1½" main.
4. Spain Lane	4"	C.I.	187	Replaces old 1½" and 2" mains.
				<hr/> 334 <hr/>

### (E) Quality of Water.

(1)a The water supply of the area has been, in my opinion, satisfactory throughout the year.

(1)b The quantity of water available has been generally satisfactory, except during the autumn when the supply was restricted and trade consumption reduced, to safeguard domestic supplies. A bulk supply of up to 250,000 gallons per day will be available from the mains of the Boston R.D.C. for the summer of 1954.

(2) Monthly samples of the raw water and treated water passing to supply at Revesby and Fordington are submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological analysis. No adverse report has been received. Copies of all reports are submitted to the Medical Officer of Health, who in turn supplies me with copies of reports received in respect of samples taken from the town mains at frequent intervals.

(3) The water has no plumbo-solvent action. No form of contamination detected.

(4) The proportion of the houses in the Borough supplied by standpipes and outside taps is relatively small and mainly confined to old parts of the town.

1% of the approx. 7,000 houses are without a piped water supply.

(Signed) D. H. BALL,

Borough Water Engineer.

18th May, 1954.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

(a) Sewers completed for 140 houses on Woad Farm Housing Estate.

(b) Sewer completed for Freiston Road Housing site.

(c) Sewers laid in Mill Road and Robin Hood's Walk for Corporation and Private housing development respectively.

(d) Routine maintenance and sewer cleansing carried out.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE SCHEMES.

House refuse is collected at fortnightly intervals.

Net cost per ton ... .. 14/4d.

Net cost per 1,000 of population ... .. £299

Net cost per 1,000 premises ... .. £954

Weight per 1,000 of population ... .. 22.8 cwts.

Waste paper collections were 618 tons, and pig food collections amounted to 1,224 tons. The total income from salvage was £7,474.

## SWIMMING BATHS:—

Attendances at the swimming baths were again maintained at a high level and throughout the season samples of the water were taken at frequent intervals. In all 47 samples were submitted for analysis and with 5 exceptions the water proved to be of a satisfactory quality. In each of these cases prompt action was taken to rectify the trouble. However, in the absence of additional purification plant heavy chlorination is still necessary to ensure that the water is of a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

## MEASURES AGAINST INFESTATION:—

### (a) Rodent Control :—

It is safe to say that the unremitting work of rat extermination over the past ten years is now showing dividends. Although there was only a small decrease in the number of premises treated the infestations were generally very small and apart from a small hard core of areas in which the total elimination of rats is very difficult, the town as a whole is very much freer of rats than it used to be.

Year.	No. of premises treated.	No. of bodies recovered.
1951	925	1386
1952	1050	1215
1953	968	448

(b) **Verminous Houses :—**

The number of premises treated for vermin is as follows :—

Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Cockroaches, Ants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44

**SANITARY INSPECTION IN THE BOROUGH :—**

The following information has been supplied by Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is also responsible for the preparation of the remainder of this section, Section D and much of Section E. The figures indicate that the present staff of two inspectors has been very fully employed and if, as seems likely, the amount of work should increase, the appointment of an additional inspector will have to be considered.

**INSPECTIONS :—**

**Dwellings.**

Inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	344
Inspected under the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	572
			—916

**Re-inspections.**

Under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	603
Under the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	368
			—971
Overcrowding	...	...	275
Smoke Observations	...	...	26
Offensive Trades	...	...	7
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	2
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	137
Butchers' Shops	...	...	109
Prepared Food Premises	...	...	89
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	17
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	43
Bakehouses	...	...	70
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	20
Food Shops and Premises	...	...	189
Market Stalls	...	...	138
Food Poisoning and Dysentery Investigations	...	...	85
Food Poisoning and Dyesntery Revisits	...	...	513
Factories	...	...	70
Dairies	...	...	17
Slaughterhouse and Meat Depot	...	...	749
Rat Infestation	...	...	9
Port Sanitary—Vessels Inspected	...	...	185
Pet Animals Act Inspections	...	...	9
Infectious Diseases	...	...	36
Miscellaneous	...	...	61

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,743</b>
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## Samples Taken.

### Water

Public Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Other	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
							—165
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Iced Lollies	..	...	...	...	...	...	15
Mussels	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	...	606
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

## Drains and Sewers.

Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Drains Cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sewers Cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	298

### OFFICE WORK:—

#### Informal Notices.

	Served.	Complied with.
Housing Act, 1936	...	...
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...
Dustbin	...	...

#### Statutory Notices.

	Served.	Complied with.
Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9	...	...
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...
Dustbin	...	...
Conversions	...	...

### PREMISES DISINFECTED:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

### NUISANCES REPORTED AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:—

Total number of complaints received	...	...	...	507
The following are details of complaints received and remedied:—				

Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	9
General Housing Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	78
Defective W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fleas, beetles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	10
Ants	...	...	...	...	...	4

Rats and Mice ... ..	135
Choked Drains ... ..	17
Choked sewers ... ..	174
Flooded cellars ... ..	3
Smoke nuisance ... ..	3
Other nuisances ... ..	38
Defective yard and passage paving ... ..	3
Cesspools ... ..	6
Overcrowding ... ..	8
Miscellaneous ... ..	13

NUISANCES from PREMISES other than DWELLINGS:—

Factories ... ..	3
Pigs ... ..	2
Waste Land ... ..	1

DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR :—

Defect	No. found	No. Remedied	
		(a) Informally	(b) By Statutory Action
Roofs .. ..	56	44	14
Chimneys .. ..	22	12	1
Pointing of external walls .. ..	39	10	2
Brickwork .. ..	16	5	1
Gutters and down pipes .. ..	51	26	12
Boundary walls or fences .. ..	4	3	—
Wall plaster .. ..	50	27	15
Ceiling plaster .. ..	29	24	2
Doors and door frames .. ..	20	9	1
Windows and window frames .. ..	29	20	4
Sash cords .. ..	33	19	—
Floors (solid) .. ..	6	6	1
Floor boards .. ..	15	14	2
Skirtings .. ..	6	4	1
Firegrates or ranges .. ..	35	20	8
Treads and risers .. ..	5	3	—
W.C. roofs .. ..	6	4	3
W.C. walls .. ..	7	7	4
W.C. doors and door frames .. ..	5	6	—
W.C. pans .. ..	33	12	13
W.C. flushing cisterns .. ..	51	10	14
W.C. flushing pipes .. ..	49	10	13
Yard and passage paving .. ..	29	7	20
Drains .. ..	4	4	1
Dustbins .. ..	39	30	6
Water supply .. ..	34	7	12
Sinks .. ..	35	7	13
Sink waste pipes .. ..	16	7	13
Yard Gullies .. ..	39	10	12
Coppers .. ..	3	1	1
Cesspools .. ..	33	31	1

## Other Items

### WATER:—

100 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and no serious deficiency in the standard was detected. During early September unsatisfactory samples were obtained in one area but the Water Engineer rectified the trouble in less than a week. Samples were also submitted monthly for chemical analysis and no adverse report was received.

The following table classifies the results of the samples examined bacteriologically.

Class I	Class II	Class III (suspicious)	Class IV (unsatisfactory)
87	5	2	6

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES:—

There is only one registered common lodging house in the Borough and this is occupied almost entirely by permanent residents. Conditions in the house are fairly satisfactory and no complaints concerning it have been received.

### FACTORIES:—

The following tables give particulars of the visits made to factories during 1953. The number of defects found was small and in no case was it necessary to resort to statutory action to remedy the defects.

#### Inspections.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	22	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	147	7	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	18	Nil	Nil
Total ..	187	7	Nil



### Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	17	17	Nil	2	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	1	1	Nil	3	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	Nil	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .. ..	26	26	Nil	7	Nil

### OUTWORKERS' PREMISES:—

There are now only four outworkers in the Borough, two being engaged on pea picking, one making lace and one wearing apparel. Although the premises on which the pea picking is carried out are clean, I consider that all outwork in connection with food preparation should be prohibited.

## SECTION D

### HOUSING

Number of Houses erected in the Borough during the year:—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	43	6	Nil
(b) By the Council ... ..	64	Nil	68

Number under construction at the end of 1953:—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	35	7	Nil
(b) By the Council ... ..	60	6	Nil



# INSPECTIONS:—

## 1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	1131
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	2053
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	198
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	587
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	29
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	1038

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	164
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## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

### A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	15
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ... ..	10
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	7

### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	59
-----	---	----

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— |    |
| (a) By owners ... ..   | 85 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners  | 13 |

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | 1   |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..          | Nil |

In addition, undertakings not to use for human habitation until rendered fit were accepted in respect of 5 houses.

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	1
---	---

## SLUM CLEARANCE.

In February the Housing Committee approved in principle a scheme to clear 175 houses in five years and requested the Lettings Sub-Committee to earmark 35 houses per year for re-housing the families from clearance areas. Later in the year Clearance Orders were made in respect of 18 houses in Queen Street and George Street and 7 houses in Goodbarn's Yard.

### 4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

Overcrowding records are incomplete and out of date and no accurate figures can be given.

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION:—

During the early part of the year new floors were put in both the beast and pig slaughterhouses, improved hanging facilities were provided and an electric hoist was fixed over the pig scalding tank. The hanging space for sheep and pigs is not satisfactory, being badly ventilated and not being in any way separated from the slaughter hall and scalding tank.

With the exception of pigs all classes of animals show a decrease in the number slaughtered.

## Meat Destroyed

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Carcases whole with offal .. ..	48	11	186	245
Forequarters .. ..	5	—	—	5
Hindquarters .. ..	20	—	—	20
Plucks .. ..	—	33	1512	1545
Heads and Tongues ..	161	1	90	252
Livers .. ..	593	3	—	596
Lungs .. ..	207	—	—	207
Intestines .. ..	148	14	2383	2545
Miscellaneous .. ..	119	20	5536	5675
Meat .. ..	8cwts. 29lbs.	106lbs.	5cwts. 102lbs.	15cwts. 13lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned :  
47 tons 16 cwts. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	1230	415	84	4859	4829
Number inspected .. ..	1230	415	84	4859	4829
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	12	8	8	11	179
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	689		29	51	1378
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	43.1		44.0	1.3	32.2
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	13	7	—	—	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	204		—	—	80
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	13.6		—	—	1.8

## MILK AND OTHER FOODS:—

Regular inspections are carried out of all premises dealing in food and of places where food is prepared. Generally a satisfactory standard is maintained, but few premises reach a very high standard. There are signs, however, that with restrictions growing less and competition becoming keener, the general standard is becoming higher.

## ACTION UNDER REGULATION 20, MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

During February a report was received from the County Sanitary Officer that a sample of milk from a producer in the Borough had given a positive reaction to a biological test for tubercle bacilli. A notice was served under regulation 20 and remained in force until the 23rd April when it was withdrawn following the receipt of a satisfactory report from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The service of the notice did not interrupt the sale of the milk as it was possible immediately to make arrangements with a local dairy for the pasteurisation of the milk.

## FOOD POISONING:—

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred in the Borough during the year, and of the 21 isolated cases notified 15 were later confirmed.

In all the cases which were notified prompt follow-up action was taken in an endeavour to trace the cause of the illness, and where possible specimens of suspected foodstuffs were recovered and submitted for analysis together with specimens of faeces from the patients. In only 1 case was it found not possible to identify the agent causing the illness.

All the patients eventually recovered.

## BYE-LAWS UNDER SECTION 15, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938:—

The enforcement of the bye-laws has not created any difficulties, such breaches as have been observed being dealt with by verbal or written warnings.

## ICE CREAM:—

During the year seven premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, but none for the manufacture. The majority of these sell only wrapped ice cream and as far as possible the sale of unwrapped ice cream is discouraged.

The examination of a small number of iced lollipops produced a high proportion of unsatisfactory samples but these were all traced to one manufacturer (not in the Borough) and led to the discovery of a fault in the manufacturing plant which was quickly eliminated.

## SECTION F

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### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table I shows the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year, the numbers admitted to hospital, and the total number of deaths.

**Measles:**—A widespread epidemic of Measles which was prevalent in the Borough and surrounding district during the year resulted in 1,216 cases being reported in the Borough. Notifications began to be above normal in February and thereafter continued to be very heavy, the peak being reached in April when 628 cases were notified. From then onwards there was a gradual decrease in the rate of notification until August, no further cases being reported after that month.

The incidence therefore was much higher than that of the last epidemic in 1950 when 826 cases were notified.

**Whooping Cough:**—The number of cases notified increased from 59 in 1952 to 87 in 1953. The majority of the cases occurred during the period October—December.

**Chicken Pox:**—An appreciable decrease in the number of cases occurring resulted in 180 cases being notified as compared with 450 in 1952.

**Dysentery:**—During March and April an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in children attending the Tower Road School. The resulting investigations involved visits to 41 households and samples of faeces were collected from 137 persons, 49 of whom were found to be positive cases. In all, 543 specimens were collected before the outbreak was finally controlled.

Symptoms were also found in pupils attending the school who were normally resident in the Rural District, the investigations in these cases being conducted by the Sanitary Inspectors of that Authority.

The source of the epidemic was not traced.

**Pneumonia:**—A total of 68 notifications were received as compared with 39 in 1952. 21 cases were admitted to hospital and there were two deaths.



**Scarlet Fever:**—Of the 21 cases notified 20 were confirmed, 6 of which were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. The number of cases notified in 1952 was 11.

**Acute Poliomyelitis:**—During the year 4 paralytic cases were notified as compared with 1 in the previous year. In all cases the patients were removed to hospital where the diagnosis was later confirmed. There were no resultant deaths.

Two Non-Paralytic type cases were also notified but the diagnosis in each case was eventually not confirmed.

**Scabies:**—Two cases were notified as compared with 1 in 1952. Both patients were members of the same family and they received treatment from their own doctor.

If necessary, the Holland County Council undertakes the treatment of cases of Scabies occurring in the Borough, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the Corporation. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, arrangements in force ensure that details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

**Table I.**  
**Notifiable Disease during the Year 1953**

Disease	Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Acute Poliomyelitis : (Paralytic) .. ..	4	4	4	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis : (Non-Paralytic) .. ..	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chicken Pox .. ..	180	180	Nil	Nil
Dysentery .. ..	54	49	2	Nil
Erysipelas .. ..	2	2	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning .. ..	21	15	1	Nil
Measles .. ..	1216	1216	9	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	68	68	21	2
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	14	14	14	Nil
Scabies .. ..	2	2	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever .. ..	21	20	6	Nil
Whooping Cough .. ..	87	87	Nil	Nil

#### TUBERCULOSIS:—

Cases notified within the Borough come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, Central Lincolnshire Chest Unit.

Table II.  
TUBERCULOSIS.  
Showing New Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Over 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	8	1	2	1	1	—	—

#### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA:—

All arrangements in connection with immunisation within the Borough are under the control of the Holland County Council.

The following figures, supplied by the County Health Department, give details of the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Children under 5 years of age ... ..	271
Children 5—14 years of age ... ..	39
	—310
Children given a secondary or reinforcing injection ... ..	351

The 310 primary immunisations comprise 274 Combined Prophylactics and 36 immunisations which were against Diphtheria alone.

The percentage of children immunised in relation to the child population is as follows:—

Under 5 population ... ..	63.2%
5—14 population ... ..	85.4%

In the case of children under 5 years these figures compare rather unfavourably with the safety figure recommended by the Ministry of Health which is 75% of the babies under the age of 1 year. It is strongly urged that parents should take better advantage of the immunisation facilities available as a high level of immunity is the only real safeguard against a return of Diphtheria in the community.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND OF THE  
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

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**PART II**  
**BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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Year ended 31st December, 1953.

# BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Year ended 31st December, 1953

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To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Boston, being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health Administration of the Port of Boston during the year ended 31st December, 1953. In conformity with Ministry of Health requirements the information requested under some Sections and which has not varied from the preceding year is indicated "No Change."

On the 1st May, 1953, the Port of Boston was approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratting Exemption Certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, and Certificates issued from that date to the 31st December, 1953, are included in Table F of Section 12.

The general trade of the Port and the foreign ports from which ships arrived, have varied very little from that of previous years, but there has been an increase in ships arriving from foreign ports from 436 in 1952 to 565 in 1953, and coastwise traffic has also increased from 373 to 380 for the same comparative years.

I am pleased to report there has been a complete absence of infectious diseases, and I am satisfied that the present arrangements are adequate to deal with any outbreak that may occur.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to all concerned for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. SMEATON,  
Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.  
March, 1954.

SECTION I—Staff

TABLE A

— NO CHANGE —

SECTION II—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign ports	565	134,451	15	126	Nil
Coastwise	380	61,046	3	40	Nil
Total	945	195,497	18	166	Nil

# SECTION III—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ..	Number of passengers INWARDS : 88. Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 93.
CARGO TRAFFIC ..	Principal IMPORTS : Grain, Deals, Battens and Boards, Sleepers, Telegraph Poles, Flour, Feeding Stuffs, Potatoes, Fertilisers, Fruit and Vegetables, Bulbs, Petroleum, Basic Slag, Spelter, Bog Ore, Clay, Mussels and Fish, Steel Bars. Principal EXPORTS : Grain, Sugar, Zinc Ashes, Steel Tyres, General (Continental), Fireclay, Coal.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive ..	BELGIUM : Antwerp, Ghent. CORSICA : Ajaccio, Bastia. DENMARK : Esbjerg, Fredericia, Lemvig, Nykobing, Vejle. EGYPT : Alexandria. FINLAND : Hamina, Hango, Haukipudas, Kasko, Kemi, Kotka, Pateniemi, Rafso, Raumo, Yxpila. FRANCE : Bayonne, Bordeaux, Dieppe, Honfleur, Rhejms. GERMANY : Bremen, Hamburg, Kiel, Stettin. HOLLAND : Haarlingen, Hansweert, Maasluis, Middleharnis, Rotterdam, Terneuzen, Zaandam. NORWAY : Bergen, Frederickstad, Oslo, Skien. POLAND : Gdansk. RUSSIA : Archangel, Kovda, Leningrad, Petchora. SPAIN : Almeria, Burriana, Gandia, Valencia. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Hernosand, Hudiksvall, Karlshamm, Karlstad, Karskar, Kopmanholmen, Ljusne, Norrkoping, Nykoping, Oskarshamm, Skutskar, Stugsund, Sundsvall.

## SECTION IV—Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

## SECTION V—Water Supply

### I. Source of supply for

(a) The District.

(b) Shipping.

— NO CHANGE —

2. **Reports of tests for contamination.**

— NO CHANGE —

3. **Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.**

— NO CHANGE —

4. **Number and sanitary conditions of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.**

There are no water boats in the Port.

— NO CHANGE —

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**SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952**

1. **List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).**

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

— NO CHANGE —

2. **Radio Messages.**

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

— NO CHANGE —

3. **Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).**

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

— NO CHANGE —

4. **Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).**

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

— NO CHANGE —

**5. Arrangements for :—**

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—see Section VII).
- (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.
- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

— NO CHANGE —

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**SECTION VII—Smallpox**

**1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.**

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

**2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.**

Arrangements have been made with the Medical Officer of Health for Grimsby that in all cases of smallpox the Isolation Hospital, Laceby, will provide ambulances and crews consisting of specially trained and vaccinated teams of attendants.

**3. Names of smallpox consultants available.**

Dr. J. H. C. Clarke,	Dr. G. Nisbet,	Dr. J. Glen,
County Offices,	Bridge Street,	Springfield Hospital,
Sleaford.	Peterborough.	Scarthoe,
		Grimsby.

**4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.**

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A. W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, School of Hygiene, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, 3.

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**SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease**

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

— NO CHANGE —



## SECTION IX—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1953.

## SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

## SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1953.

## SECTION XII—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports

### 1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

### 2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.



Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester 10.

During the year 1 body was examined and reported as free from plague.

3. **Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.**

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. **Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.**

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Port Sanitary Officer.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category	Number
Black rats .. .. .	Nil
Brown rats .. .. .	3
Species not known .. .. .	Nil
Sent for examination .. .. .	1
Infected with plague .. .. .	Nil

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

On the 1st May, 1953, Boston was classified as an approved port for the issue of Deratting Exemption Certificates. The following table gives particulars of exemption certificates issued from the 1st May—31st December. Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons .. .. .	7
Ships from 301—1,000 tons .. .. .	4
Ships from 1,001—3,000 tons .. .. .	Nil
Total .. .. .	11

## SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G  
Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Defects of Original Construction	133	Nil	Nil	—
Structural Defects through wear and tear	141	Nil	8	2 remedied. 6 sailed before completion.
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health	149	Nil	16	14 remedied. 2 sailed before completion.
Total ..	149	Nil	24	16 remedied.

## SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

No action was necessary during the year 1953, either under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 20 shipments of Danish mussels totalling 36,340 bags were landed. All consignments were accompanied by a certificate of purity and samples submitted for bacteriological examination were all satisfactory.

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## SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens

— NO CHANGE —

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## SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases.

— NO CHANGE —



